

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-07 L-02

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INFO AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT, CO

SUBJ: POSSIBLE SHAKE-UP IN VALLE ADMINISTRATION IN AUGUST
1975

1. MARINO CAICEDO CARVAJAL, POPULAR FORMER MUNICIPAL DIRECTOR OF TRANSIT, CALI, HAS CONFIDENTIALLY INFORMED THE CONSULATE OF A HIGH LEVEL MEETING OF THE LOCAL LIBERAL PARTY LEADERS, JANUARY 22ND, AT WHICH PLANS WERE DISCUSSED FOR THE REPLACEMENT OF THE PRESENT GOVERNOR AND MAYOR AT THE END OF THEIR FIRST YEAR IN OFFICE. ACCORDING TO CAICEDO, HE HAS BEEN OFFERED THE POST OF MANAGER OF EMSIRVA (PARKS AND SANITARY SERVICES), WHICH POSITION HE WILL HOLD UNTIL JUNE, AT WHICH TIME HE WILL BE ASSIGNED AS COUNSELOR AT THE COLOMBIAN EMBASSY, BERLIN, EAST GERMANY, TO RETURN TO CALI IN AUGUST TO ACCEPT THE POST OF MAYOR. CAICEDO IS A MEMBER OF THE LIBERAL PARTY.

2. CARLOS HOLGUIN SARDI, FORMER MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS UNDER PRESIDENT PASTRANA AND FORMER MAYOR OF CALI, HAS BEEN TAGGED FOR THE POST OF GOVERNOR. HOLGUIN IS A MEMBER OF THE CONSERVATIVE PARTY.

3. COMMENT: CAICEDO INDICATED CONSIDERABLE DISSATISFACTION
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ON THE PART OF THE LIBERAL PARTY WITH THE PERFORMANCE OF

BOTH THE PRESENT GOVERNOR, RAUL OREJUELA BUENO (LIBERAL), AND MAYOR, ALFREDO CARVAJAL SINISTERRA(CONSERVATIVE). DISSATISFACTION CENTERED ON THEIR INABILITY TO DATE TO MOVE FORWARD ON LOCAL PROJECTS AND THE GENERAL LACKLUSTER IMAGE THEY HAVE PROJECTED. IT IS INTERESTING TO NOTE THAT IF THE TIME TABLE OF CHANGE IS CORRECT, LIBERAL LEADERSHIP IS WILLING TO PERMIT THE INCUMBENTS A RELATIVELY GRACEFUL EXIT AFTER ONE YEAR OFFICE, RATHER THAN AN ABRUPT CHANGEOVER. IT SUGGESTS THAT LOCAL VALLE LEADERSHIP DOES NOT ANTICIPATE DRAMATIC PROBLEMS REQUIRING FIRST-LINE LEADERSHIP IN THE NEAR FUTURE. THE APPOINTMENTS OF HOLGUIN AND CAICEDO, BOTH HIGHLY POPULAR PERSONALITIES IN CALI, WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE RECEIVED ENTHUSIASTICALLY BY ALL SECTORS OF THE CITY AND DEPARTMENT.

TODAY'S PRESS (29 JANUARY) REPORTS THE APPOINTMENT OF CAICEDO AS MANAGER OF EMSIRVA, LENDING CREDENCE TO THE FULL SCENARIO HE HAS DESCRIBED. KERR

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